

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

**ESA STORMWATER ORDINANCE**

1        SECTION 1. Ordinance 9163, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 9.04.020 are  
2 each hereby amended to read as follows:

3        **9.04.020 Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and  
4 enforcement of this chapter:

5            A. "Adjustment" means a department approved variation in the application of the  
6 requirements of K.C.C. 9.04.050 and the Surface Water Design Manual to a particular  
7 project in accordance with K.C.C. 9.04.050C. The term adjustment replaces "variance"  
8 which had been used in prior editions of the Surface Water Design Manual.

9            B. "Applicant" means a property owner or a public agency or public or private utility  
10 which owns a right-of-way or other easement or has been adjudicated the right to such an  
11 easement pursuant to RCW 8.12.090, or any person or entity designated or named in writing  
12 by the property or easement owner to be the applicant, in an application for a development  
13 proposal, permit or approval.

14           C. "Basin" means a drainage area which drains either to the Cedar, Green,  
15 Snoqualmie, Skykomish or White rivers, or the drainage areas which drain directly to Puget  
16 Sound.

17           D. "Basin Plan" means a plan and all implementing regulations and procedures  
18 including, but not limited to, capital projects, public education activities and land use  
19 management adopted by ordinance for managing surface and storm water management  
20 facilities and features within individual subbasins.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

21           E. "Closed depression" means an area which is low-lying and either has no, or such a  
22   limited, surface water outlet that during storm events the area acts as a retention basin, with  
23   more than five thousand square feet at overflow elevation.

24           F. "Construct or modify" means to install a new drainage pipe or ditch or make  
25   improvements to an existing drainage pipe or ditch (other than routine maintenance, repair or  
26   emergency modifications, excluding driveway culverts installed as part of single-family  
27   residential building permits) that either serves to concentrate previously unconcentrated  
28   surface and storm water runoff, or serves to increase, decrease and/or redirect the  
29   conveyance of surface and storm water runoff.

30           G. "Conveyance system" means the drainage facilities and features, both natural and  
31   constructed, which collect, contain and provide for the flow of surface and storm water from  
32   the highest points on the land down to a receiving water. The natural elements of the  
33   conveyance system include swales and small drainage courses, streams, rivers, lakes and  
34   wetlands. The constructed elements of the conveyance system include gutters, ditches,  
35   pipes, channels and most flow control and water quality treatment facilities.

36           H. "Department" means the department of natural resources and parks or its  
37   successor organization.

38           I. "Development" means any activity that requires a permit or approval, including,  
39   but not limited to, a building permit, grading permit, shoreline substantial development  
40   permit, conditional use permit, special use permit, zoning variance or reclassification,  
41   subdivision, short subdivision, urban planned development, binding site plan, site  
42   development permit or right-of-way use permit.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

43           J. "Director" means the director of the department of natural resources and parks, or  
44 any duly authorized representative of such director.

45           K. "Drainage" means the collection, conveyance, containment and/or discharge of  
46 surface and storm water runoff.

47           L. "Drainage facility" means a constructed or engineered feature that collects,  
48 conveys, stores or treats surface and storm water runoff. Drainage facilities shall include, but  
49 not be limited to, constructed or engineered streams, pipelines, channels, ditches, gutters,  
50 lakes, wetlands, closed depressions, flow control or water quality treatment facilities, erosion  
51 and sediment control facilities and other structures and appurtenances that provide for  
52 drainage.

53           M. "Drainage review" means an evaluation by King County staff of a proposed  
54 project's compliance with the drainage requirements in the Surface Water Design Manual.

55           N. "Erosion and sediment control" means any temporary or permanent measures  
56 taken to reduce erosion, control siltation and sedimentation and ensure that sediment-laden  
57 water does not leave the site.

58           O. "Financial guarantee" means a form of financial security posted to ensure timely  
59 and proper completion of improvements, to ensure compliance with the King County Code,  
60 and/or to warranty materials, workmanship of improvements and design. Financial  
61 guarantees include assignments of funds, cash deposit, surety bonds and/or other forms of  
62 financial security acceptable to the director of the department of development and  
63 environmental services. For the purposes of this chapter, the terms performance guarantee,

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

64 maintenance guarantee and defect guarantee are considered sub-categories of financial  
65 guarantee.

66 P. "Flow control BMP" means a method or design for dispersing, infiltrating, or  
67 otherwise reducing or preventing development-related increases in surface and storm water  
68 runoff at or near the sources of those increases. Flow control BMPs include, but are not  
69 limited to, the following methods and designs applied as specified in the Surface Water  
70 Design Manual: preservation and use of native vegetated surfaces to fully disperse runoff;  
71 use of other pervious surfaces to disperse runoff; roof downspout infiltration; pervious  
72 pavements; rainwater harvesting; vegetated roofs; and reduction of development footprint.

73 Q. "Flow control facility" means a drainage facility designed to mitigate the impacts  
74 of increased surface and storm water runoff generated by site development pursuant to the  
75 drainage requirements in this chapter. Flow control facilities are designed either to hold  
76 water for a considerable length of time and then release it by evaporation, plant transpiration  
77 and/or infiltration into the ground or to hold runoff for a short period of time and then release  
78 it to the conveyance system.

79 ((Q)) R. "Full drainage review" means the basic evaluation required by K.C.C.  
80 9.04.030 for any proposed project that:

81 1. ~~((Add five))~~ Would result in two thousand square feet or more of new  
82 impervious surface;

83 2. ~~((Is located in a landslide hazard drainage area as mapped in the Surface Water~~  
84 ~~Design Manual and adds two thousand square feet or more of new impervious surface))~~  
85 Would result in thirty-five thousand square feet or more of new pervious surface; ((or))

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

86           3. Is a redevelopment project (~~((proposing five hundred thousand dollars or more of~~  
87 ~~site improvements which creates five thousand square feet or more of contiguous pollutant-~~  
88 ~~generating impervious surface through any combination of new and/or replaced impervious~~  
89 ~~surface))~~ that is not a transportation redevelopment project in which the total of new plus  
90 replaced impervious surface is five thousand square feet or more and whose valuation of  
91 proposed improvements including interior improvements exceeds fifty percent of the  
92 assessed value of the existing site improvements; or

93           4. Is a transportation redevelopment project in which new impervious surface is  
94 five thousand square feet or more and totals fifty percent or more of the existing  
95 impervious surface within the project limits.

96           ((R)) S. "High-use site" means a commercial, industrial or road intersection site that  
97 generates a higher than average number of vehicle turnovers or has other characteristics that  
98 generate the potential for chronic oil accumulation. High use sites include:

- 99           1. Commercial or industrial sites subject to:
- 100               a. an expected daily traffic count greater than one hundred vehicles per one  
101 thousand square feet of gross building area;
- 102               b. petroleum storage or transfer in excess of one thousand gallons per year, not  
103 including routine fuel oil storage or transfer; or
- 104               c. use, storage or maintenance of a fleet of twenty-five or more diesel vehicles  
105 each weighing over ten tons; or

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

106           2. Road intersections with average daily traffic counts of twenty-five thousand  
107 vehicles or more on the main roadway and fifteen thousand or more vehicles on any  
108 intersecting roadway (excluding pedestrian or bicycle use improvement projects).

109           ((S)) T. "Hydraulically connected" means connected through surface flow or water  
110 features such as wetlands or lakes.

111           ((F)) U. "Impervious surface" means a hard surface area which either prevents or  
112 retards the entry of water into the soil mantle as under natural conditions prior to  
113 development, and/or a hard surface area which causes water to run off the surface in greater  
114 quantities or at an increased rate of flow from the flow present under natural conditions prior  
115 to development. Common impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to, roofs,  
116 walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots, storage areas, areas which are paved, graveled or  
117 made of packed or oiled earthen materials or other surfaces which similarly impede the  
118 natural infiltration of surface and storm water. Open uncovered flow control or water quality  
119 treatment facilities shall not be considered as impervious surfaces.

120           ((U)) V. "Improvement" means streets (with or without curbs or gutters), sidewalks,  
121 crosswalks, parking lots, water mains, sanitary and storm sewers, drainage facilities, street  
122 trees and other appropriate items.

123           W. "Land disturbing activity" means any activity that results in a change in the  
124 existing soil cover, both vegetative and nonvegetative, or the existing soil topography.  
125 Land disturbing activities include, but are not limited to, demolition, construction, clearing,  
126 grading, filling, excavation and compaction.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

127           (~~(V-)~~) X "Lake management plan" means a plan describing the lake management  
128   recommendations and requirements adopted by public rule for managing water quality  
129   within individual lake basins.

130           (~~(W-)~~) Y "Large site drainage review" means the evaluation required by K.C.C.  
131   9.04.030 for any proposed project that:

132           1. Has an urban plan development ((UPD), as defined in K.C.C. 21A.06.1340) land  
133   use designation in the King County Comprehensive Plan land use map;

134           2. Would, at full buildout of the project site, result in fifty acres or more of new  
135   impervious surface within a drainage subbasin or a number of subbasins hydraulically  
136   connected across subbasin boundaries; or

137           3. Is on a site of fifty acres or more within the recharge area of a sole-source aquifer  
138   designated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and depicted as such on the  
139   areas highly susceptible to groundwater contamination map adopted as part of the King  
140   County Comprehensive Plan.

141           (~~(X-)~~) Z. "Licensed civil engineer" means a person registered with the State of  
142   Washington as a professional engineer in civil engineering.

143           (~~(Y-)~~) AA. "Master drainage plan" means a comprehensive drainage control plan  
144   intended to prevent significant adverse impacts to the natural and constructed drainage  
145   system, both on- and off-site.

146           BB. "Native vegetated surface" means a surface in which the soil conditions,  
147   ground cover, and species of vegetation are like those of the original native condition for  
148   the site. More specifically, this means (1) the soil is either undisturbed or has been treated

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

149 according to the native vegetated landscape specifications in the Surface Water Design  
150 Manual (SWDM), (2) the ground is either naturally covered with vegetation litter or has  
151 been top-dressed with 6 inches of hog fuel consistent with the native vegetated landscape  
152 specifications in the SWDM, and (3) the vegetation is either (a) comprised predominantly  
153 of plant species, other than noxious weeds, which are indigenous to the coastal region of  
154 the Pacific Northwest and which reasonably could have been expected to naturally occur  
155 on the site, or (b) comprised of plant species as specified for a native vegetated landscape  
156 in the SWDM. Examples of plant species include: trees, such as Douglas fir, western  
157 hemlock, western red cedar, alder, big-leaf maple and vine maple; shrubs, such as willow,  
158 elderberry, salmonberry and salal; and herbaceous plants, such as sword fern, foam flower,  
159 and fireweed.

160 CC. “New impervious surface” means the creation of impervious surface. “New  
161 impervious surface” includes impervious surface created after January 8, 2001, unless the  
162 new impervious surface was mitigated to, or was below the thresholds of, the flow control  
163 standards in effect at the time a complete application to construct the impervious surface  
164 was filed with the department of development and environmental services if a permit to  
165 created the new impervious surface was required.

166 DD. “New pervious surface” means the conversion of a native vegetated surface to  
167 a pasture, lawn, landscaped or bare soil surface, or the conversion of pasture or meadow to  
168 a lawn, landscaped or bare soil surface. “New pervious surface” includes pervious surface  
169 created after January 8, 2001, unless that pervious surface was mitigated to, or was below  
170 the thresholds of, the flow control standards in effect at the time a complete application to



**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

171 construct the pervious surface was filed with the department of development and  
172 environmental services.

173       ~~((Z-))~~ EE "Pollution-generating impervious surface" means an impervious surface  
174 considered to be a significant source of pollutants in surface and storm water runoff. Such  
175 surfaces include those subject to vehicular use or storage of erodible or leachable materials,  
176 wastes or chemicals and which receive direct rainfall or the run-on or blow-in of rainfall.  
177 Thus, a covered parking area would be included if runoff from uphill could regularly run  
178 through it or if rainfall could regularly blow in and wet the pavement surface. Metal roofs  
179 are also considered pollution-generating impervious surface unless they are treated to  
180 prevent leaching.

181       ~~((AA-))~~ FF. "Pollution-generating pervious surface" means a nonimpervious surface  
182 ~~((with vegetative ground cover))~~ subject to use of pesticides and fertilizers or loss of soil.  
183 Such surfaces include, but are not limited to, the lawn and landscaped areas of residential or  
184 commercial sites, golf courses, parks, ~~((and))~~ sports fields and county-standard grassed  
185 modular grid pavement.

186       ~~((BB-))~~ GG "Preapplication" means either the meeting or meetings or form or forms,  
187 or both, used by applicants for some development permits to present initial project intentions  
188 to the department of development and environmental services or its successor agency.  
189 Preapplication does not mean application.

190       ~~((CC-))~~ HH. "Project" means any proposed action to alter or develop a site which  
191 may also require drainage review.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

192           ~~((DD-))~~ II. "Project site" means the portion of a site subject to proposed project  
193 activities, alterations and improvements including those required by this chapter.

194           ~~((EE-))~~ JJ. "Redevelopment project" means a project that proposes to add, replace  
195 ~~((and/or alter))~~ or modify impervious or pervious surface for purposes other than a  
196 residential subdivision or routine maintenance, resurfacing, regrading, or repair on a site that:  
197           1. is already substantially developed as currently zoned or designated or as a legal  
198 non-conforming use, (for example, a residential-zoned parcel that contains an existing  
199 residence or other allowed structure or uses); or

200           2. has an existing impervious surface coverage of ((~~(~~)) thirty-five percent or  
201 more(~~((existing impervious surface coverage)))~~).

202           KK. "Replaced impervious surface" means an existing impervious surface  
203 proposed to be removed and re-established as impervious surface, excluding impervious  
204 surface removed for the sole purpose of installing utilities or performing maintenance. For  
205 purposes of this definition, "removed" means the removal of buildings down to bare soil or  
206 the removal of Portland cement concrete slabs or pavement or asphaltic concrete pavement  
207 together with any asphalt treated base.

208           ~~((FF-))~~ LL. "Runoff" means water originating from rainfall and other precipitation  
209 that is found in drainage facilities, rivers, streams, springs, seeps, ponds, lakes and wetlands  
210 as well as shallow ground water.

211           ~~((GG-))~~ MM. "Shared facility" means a drainage facility designed to meet one or  
212 more of the requirements of K.C.C. 9.04.050 for two or more separate projects contained

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

213 within a basin as defined in K.C.C. 9.04.020. Shared facilities usually include shared  
214 financial commitments for those drainage facilities.

215 ~~((HH.))~~ NN. "Small site drainage review" means a simplified alternative to full  
216 drainage review required by K.C.C. 9.04.030 allowed for proposed single-family residential  
217 projects that add ten thousand square feet or less of new impervious surface.

218 ~~((H.))~~ OO. "Site" means the legal boundaries of the parcel or parcels of land for  
219 which an applicant has or should have applied for authority from King County to carry out a  
220 development activity including any drainage improvements required by this chapter.

221 ~~((J.))~~ PP. "Subbasin" means a drainage area which drains to a water course or water  
222 body named and noted on common maps and which is contained within a basin as defined in  
223 K.C.C. 9.04.020.

224 ~~((KK.))~~ QQ. "Surface and storm water" means water originating from rainfall and  
225 other precipitation that is found in drainage facilities, rivers, streams, springs, seeps, ponds,  
226 lakes and wetlands as well as shallow ground water.

227 ~~((LL.))~~ RR. "Surface Water Design Manual" means the manual (and supporting  
228 documents as appropriate) describing surface and storm water design and analysis  
229 requirements, procedures and guidance which has been formally adopted by rule under the  
230 procedures specified in K.C.C. chapter 2.98. The Surface Water Design Manual is available  
231 from the department of development and environmental services or the department of natural  
232 resources and parks, water and land resources division or their successor agencies.

233 ~~((MM.))~~ SS. "Targeted drainage review" means an abbreviated evaluation required  
234 by K.C.C. 9.04.030 for certain types of proposed projects which are not subject to full or

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

235 large site drainage review. Targeted drainage review may be required for some projects in  
236 small site drainage review.

237 TT. “Transportation redevelopment project” means a redevelopment project that  
238 makes improvements, excluding maintenance, only to or for existing roads within public or  
239 private road rights-of-way.

240 ~~((NN-))~~ UU. "Water quality treatment facility" means a drainage facility designed to  
241 reduce pollutants once they are already contained in surface and storm water runoff. Water  
242 quality treatment facilities are the structural component of best management practices  
243 (BMPs). When used singly or in combination, water quality facilities reduce the potential  
244 for contamination of surface and/or ground waters. (Ord. 14199 § 128, 2001: Ord. 13191 §  
245 1, 1998: Ord. 12196 § 1, 1996: Ord. 12020 § 37, 1995: Ord. 11700 § 1, 1995: Ord. 11615  
246 § 2, 1994: Ord. 9163 § 2, 1989).

247 SECTION 2. Ordinance 9163, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 9.04.030 are  
248 each hereby amended to read as follows:

249 **Drainage review.** A. When required. A drainage review is required when any  
250 proposed project is subject to a King County development permit or approval and:

251 1. Would ~~((add five))~~ result in two thousand square feet or more of new  
252 impervious surface;

253 2. Is in the RA Zone and would result in five hundred square feet of new  
254 impervious surface;

255 3. Would involve seven thousand square feet or more of land disturbing activity;

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

256            ~~((2-))~~ 4. Would construct or modify a drainage pipe/ditch that is twelve inches or  
257 more in size or depth or receives surface and storm water runoff from a drainage pipe/ditch  
258 that is twelve inches or more in size or depth;

259            ~~((3-))~~ 5. Contains or ~~((be))~~ is adjacent to a floodplain, stream, lake, wetland or  
260 closed depression, or a ~~((sensitive))~~ critical area as defined in K.C.C. chapter 21A.24,  
261 excluding seismic, coal mine(s) and volcanic hazard areas.

262            ~~((5-))~~ 6. Is located within a critical drainage area;

263            ~~((6- Is located within a rural zoned area subject to area clearing limits under~~  
264 ~~K.C.C. 16.82.150C and would clear more than seven thousand square feet or thirty five~~  
265 ~~percent of the site, whichever is greater; ))~~

266            7. Is a redevelopment project proposing one hundred thousand dollars or more of  
267 improvements to an existing high-use site; ~~((or))~~

268            8. Is a redevelopment project ~~((proposing five hundred thousand dollars or more~~  
269 ~~of site improvements and would create five thousand square feet or more of contiguous~~  
270 ~~pollution-generating impervious surface through any combination of new and/or replaced~~  
271 ~~impervious surface))~~ that is not a transportation redevelopment project, in which the total  
272 of new plus replaced impervious surface is five thousand square feet or more and whose  
273 valuation of proposed improvements (including interior improvements and excluding  
274 required mitigation improvements) exceeds fifty percent of the assessed value of the  
275 existing site improvements; or

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

276           9. Is a transportation redevelopment project in which new impervious surface is  
277   five thousand square feet or more and totals fifty percent or more of the existing  
278   impervious surface within the project limits.

279           B. Type of drainage review. The drainage review for any proposed project shall be  
280   targeted to the scope of the project's size, type of development and potential for impacts to  
281   the regional surface water system to facilitate preparation and review of project  
282   applications. If drainage review for a proposed project is required by K.C.C. 9.04.030A,  
283   the department of development and environmental services shall determine which of the  
284   following drainage reviews apply as specified in the Surface Water Design Manual:

- 285           1. Small site drainage review;  
286           2. Targeted drainage review;  
287           3. Full drainage review; or  
288           4. Large site drainage review.

289   (Ord. 13191 § 2, 1998: Ord. 11615 § 4, 1994: Ord. 11016 § 13, 1993: Ord. 9163 § 3, 1989)

290           SECTION 3. Ordinance 2281, Section 5, as amended, and K.C.C. 9.04.050 are  
291   each hereby amended to read as follows:

292           **Drainage review - requirements.** A. Core requirements. Every permit or  
293   approval application with drainage review required by K.C.C. 9.04.030 must meet each of  
294   the following core requirements which are described in detail in the Surface Water Design  
295   Manual.

- 296           1. Core requirement #1: Discharge at the natural location. All surface and storm  
297   water runoff from a project shall be discharged at the natural location so as not to be

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

298 diverted onto, or away from, downstream properties. The manner in which runoff is  
299 discharged from the project site shall not create a significant adverse impact to downhill  
300 properties or drainage systems as specified in the discharge requirements of the Surface  
301 Water Design Manual.

302           2. Core requirement #2: Offsite analysis. The initial application submittal for  
303 proposed projects shall include an offsite analysis report that assesses potential offsite  
304 drainage impacts associated with development of the proposed site and proposes  
305 appropriate mitigations to those impacts. This initial submittal shall include, at minimum,  
306 a Level One downstream analysis as described in the Surface Water Design Manual. If  
307 impacts are identified, the proposed projects shall meet any applicable problem-specific  
308 requirements as specified in the Surface Water Design Manual.

309           3. Core Requirement #3: Flow control. Proposed projects shall provide flow  
310 control facilities or flow control BMPs, or both, to ((mitigate)) control ((the increased))  
311 surface and storm water runoff generated by ~~((the addition of five))~~ two thousand square  
312 feet or more of new impervious surface~~((and any related land cover conversion))~~, a total  
313 of thirty-five thousand square feet or more of new impervious and new pervious surface, or  
314 five thousand square feet or more of new or replaced impervious surface on a  
315 redevelopment project as specified in the Surface Water Design Manual. ~~((These f))~~ Flow  
316 control facilities shall meet the area-specific flow control facility requirements and the  
317 flow control facility implementation requirements applicable to the project site as specified  
318 in the Surface Water Design Manual. Flow control BMPs shall be applied as specified in  
319 the Surface Water Design Manual. Projects subject to area-specific flow control facility

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

320 requirements shall meet one of the flow control facility performance criteria listed below,  
321 as directed by the Surface Water Design Manual:

322           a. Level One: match the predeveloped site's peak discharge rates for the two-  
323 year and ten-year return periods;

324           b. Level Two: meet Level One criteria and also match the predeveloped site's  
325 discharge durations for the predeveloped peak discharge rates between the fifty percent of  
326 the two-year peak flow through the fifty-year peak flow; or

327           c. Level Three: meet Level Two criteria and also match the predeveloped site's  
328 peak discharge rate for the one hundred-year return period.

329           4. Core requirement #4: Conveyance system. All engineered conveyance system  
330 elements for proposed projects shall be analyzed, designed and constructed to provide the  
331 minimum level of protection against overtopping, flooding, erosion and structural failure  
332 as specified by the conveyance requirements for new and existing systems and conveyance  
333 implementation requirements described in the Surface Water Design Manual.

334           5. Core requirement #5: Erosion and sediment plan. All proposed projects that  
335 will clear, grade, or otherwise disturb the site shall provide erosion and sediment control  
336 (ESC) that prevents, to the maximum extent ((possible)) practicable, the transport of  
337 sediment from the site to drainage facilities, water resources and adjacent properties.  
338 Erosion and sediment controls shall be applied in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 16.82 as  
339 specified by the temporary ESC measures and performance criteria and implementation  
340 requirements in the King County erosion and sediment control standards.



**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

341           6. Core requirement #6: Maintenance and operation. Maintenance of all drainage  
342 facilities in compliance with King County maintenance standards is the responsibility of  
343 the applicant/property owner as described in the Surface Water Design Manual, except  
344 those facilities for which King County is granted an easement or covenant and assumes  
345 maintenance and operation as described in the Surface Water Design Manual.

346           7. Core requirement #7: Financial guarantees and liability. All drainage facilities  
347 constructed or modified for projects, except downspout infiltration and dispersion systems  
348 for single family residential lots, must comply with the liability requirements of K.C.C.  
349 9.04.100 and the financial guarantee requirements of K.C.C. Title 27A.

350           8. Core requirement #8: Water quality. Proposed projects shall provide water  
351 quality treatment facilities to treat polluted surface and storm water runoff generated by  
352 ~~((the addition and/or replacement of))~~ five thousand square feet or more of new or replaced  
353 pollution-generating impervious surface, as specified in the Surface Water Design Manual,  
354 or ((one-acre)) thirty-five thousand square feet or more of ((pollutant)) pollution generating  
355 pervious surface; however, pervious surfaces are specifically excluded if there is a good  
356 faith agreement with the King Conservation District to implement a farm management plan  
357 for agricultural uses, and pervious areas for other uses are specifically excluded if King  
358 County department of development and environmental services approves a landscape  
359 management plan that controls pesticides and fertilizers leaving the site. These facilities  
360 shall meet the area-specific water quality treatment requirements and the water quality  
361 implementation requirements applicable to the project site as specified in the Surface  
362 Water Design Manual. At a minimum, the facilities shall reduce pollutant loads by

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

363 meeting the applicable annual average performance goals listed below for ninety-five  
364 percent of the annual average runoff volume:

- 365 a. basic water quality: remove eighty percent of the total suspended solids;
- 366 b. sensitive lake protection: remove fifty percent of the total phosphorus;
- 367 c. resource stream protection: remove fifty percent of the total zinc;
- 368 d. sphagnum bog protection: remove fifty percent of the total phosphorus and

369 forty percent of the total nitrate plus nitrite. The discharge shall maintain a pH of less than  
370 6.5 and an alkalinity of less than ten milligrams per liter.

371 B. Special Requirements. Every proposed project required by K.C.C. 9.04.030 to  
372 have drainage review shall meet any of the following special requirements which apply to  
373 the site and which are described in detail in the Surface Water Design Manual. The  
374 department of development and environmental services shall verify if a proposed project is  
375 subject to and meets any of the special requirements.

376 1. Special Requirement #1: Other adopted area-specific requirements. If a  
377 proposed project is in a designated critical drainage area, or is in an area included in an  
378 adopted master drainage plan, basin plan, lake management plan or shared facility plan,  
379 then the proposed project shall meet the applicable drainage requirements of the critical  
380 drainage area, master drainage plan, basin plan, lake management plan or shared facility  
381 plan.

382 2. Special Requirement #2: Floodplain/floodway delineation. If a proposed  
383 project contains or is adjacent to a stream, lake, wetland or closed depression, or if other  
384 King County regulations require study of flood hazards, then the one hundred year

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

385 floodplain boundaries (and floodway if available or if improvements are proposed within  
386 the one hundred year floodplain), based on an approved flood hazard study as described in  
387 the Surface Water Design Manual, shall be delineated on the site improvement plans and  
388 profiles, and on any final subdivision maps prepared for the proposed project.

389           3. Special Requirement #3: Flood protection facilities. If a proposed project  
390 contains or is adjacent to a Class 1 or 2 stream that has an existing flood protection facility  
391 (such as levees, revetments and berms), or proposes to construct a new, or modify an  
392 existing, flood protection facility, then the flood protection facilities shall be analyzed  
393 and/or designed as specified in the Surface Water Design Manual to conform with the  
394 Federal Emergency Management Administration regulations (44 CFR).

395           4. Special Requirement #4: Source Control. If a proposed project requires a  
396 commercial building or commercial site development permit, then water quality source  
397 controls shall be applied to prevent rainfall and runoff from coming into contact with  
398 pollutants to the maximum extent ((possible)) practicable. Water quality source controls  
399 shall be applied in accordance with K.C.C. chapter 9.12 and the King County stormwater  
400 pollution control manual. All structural source controls shall be identified on the site  
401 improvement plans and profiles or final maps prepared for the proposed project.

402           5. Special Requirement #5: Oil control. If a proposed project is a high-use site or  
403 is a redevelopment project proposing \$100,000 or more of improvements to an existing  
404 high-use site, then oil control shall be applied to all runoff from the high-use portion of the  
405 site as specified in the Surface Water Design Manual.

406           C. Adjustment.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

- 407           1. An adjustment to the requirements contained in this section and/or other  
408 requirements in the Surface Water Design Manual may be proposed provided that the  
409 resulting development shall be subject to all of the remaining terms and conditions of this  
410 chapter and provided that granting the (~~(variance)~~) adjustment shall:
- 411           a. produce a compensating or comparable result in the public interest, and  
412           b. meet this chapter's objectives of safety, function, appearance, environmental  
413 protection and maintainability based upon sound engineering judgment.
- 414           2. If meeting the provisions of K.C.C. 9.04.050C.1.a will deny reasonable use of  
415 a property, the best practicable alternative shall be obtained as determined by the director  
416 of the department of development and environmental services according to the adjustment  
417 process defined in the Surface Water Design Manual.
- 418           3. Requests for adjustments which may be in conflict with the requirements of  
419 any other King County division shall require review and concurrence with that division.
- 420           4. Requests for adjustments shall be processed in accordance with procedures  
421 specified in the Surface Water Design Manual. (Note that the adjustment concept has been  
422 termed "variance" in earlier editions of the Surface Water Design Manual).
- 423           5. The county may require monitoring of experimental designs and technology or  
424 untested applications proposed by the applicant in order to determine compliance with  
425 K.C.C. 9.04.050C.1 and the approved plans and conditions.
- 426           6. The applicant may appeal an adjustment decision by following the appeal  
427 procedures as specified in the Surface Water Design Manual. (Ord. 13191 § 4, 1998: Ord.  
428 12822 § 1, 1997: Ord. 12020 § 38, 1995: Ord. 12001 § 1, 1995: Ord. 11615 § 5, 1994:

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

429 Ord. 10570 § 1, 1992: Ord. 9163 § 5, 1989: Ord. 7817 § 2, 1986: Ord. 4938 § 5, 1980:  
430 Ord. 2812 § 3, 1976: Ord. 2281 § 5, 1975).

431 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. There is hereby added to K.C.C 9.04 a new  
432 section to read as follows:

433 **Effective impervious surface limit.** On rural residential zoned parcels, no more  
434 than ten percent effective impervious surface shall be allowed as follows:

435 A. Effective impervious surface shall be calculated as that portion of the actual  
436 impervious surface from which runoff is not fully dispersed using the dispersion Best  
437 Management Practices in the Surface Water Design Manual (SWDM) or is not fully  
438 infiltrated according to the infiltration standards in the SWDM or is not managed in an  
439 alternative way approved by the department that effectively mitigates all of the following  
440 downstream hydrologic effects of the impervious surface: increased runoff peaks,  
441 frequencies, volumes, and flashiness, and decreased groundwater recharge.

442 B. For impervious surface to qualify as having fully dispersed runoff, the  
443 following conditions must be met:

444 1. the runoff from the impervious surface must be dispersed as specified in the  
445 SWDM through at least one hundred feet of native vegetated surface on a slope of fifteen  
446 percent or less prior to leaving the site or entering an existing onsite drainage feature (e.g.  
447 pipe, ditch, stream, river, pond, lake, or wetland);

448 2. the amount of impervious surface being fully dispersed shall not exceed fifteen  
449 percent of the area of native vegetated surface on the site excluding areas of native

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

450 vegetated surface occupied by and within fifty feet of a septic drainfield and drainfield  
451 reserve area;

452 3. the dispersion of runoff shall not create erosion or flooding impacts as  
453 determined by the department; and

454 C. For the purposes of the above calculation of effective impervious surface, the  
455 area of actual impervious surface may be adjusted to exclude county-standard grassed  
456 modular grid pavement and other pervious-like surfaces, such as playfields, in accordance  
457 with the SWDM.

458 SECTION 5. Ordinance 7590, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 9.08.010 are  
459 each hereby amended to read as follows:

460 **9.08.010 Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and  
461 enforcement of this chapter:

462 A. "Basin plan" means a plan and all implementing regulations and procedures  
463 including but not limited to capital projects, public education activities, land use  
464 management regulations adopted by ordinance for managing surface and storm water  
465 management facilities and features within individual subbasins.

466 B. "County" means King County.

467 C. "Department" means the department of natural resources and parks or its  
468 successor agency.

469 D. "Developed parcel" means any parcel altered from the natural state by the  
470 construction, creation or addition of impervious surfaces.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

471           E. "Director" means the director of the department of natural resources and parks or  
472 its successor agency or the director's designee.

473           F. "Division" means the department of natural resources and parks, water and land  
474 resources division or its successor agency.

475           G. "Drainage facility" has the same meaning as in K.C.C. 9.04.020L.

476           H. "Effective impervious area" means the portion of actual impervious area that is  
477 connected, or has the effect of being connected as defined in the King County Surface Water  
478 Design Manual, directly to the storm water drainage system via surface flow or discrete  
479 conveyances such as pipes, gutters or ditches.

480           ~~((H.))~~ I. "Flow control facility" ~~((means a drainage facility designed to mitigate the~~  
481 ~~impacts of increased surface and storm water runoff generated by site development in~~  
482 ~~accordance with the drainage requirements in this chapter. A flow control facility is~~  
483 ~~designed either to hold water for a considerable length of time and then release it by any~~  
484 ~~combination of evaporation, plant transpiration or infiltration into the ground or to hold~~  
485 ~~runoff for a short period of time and then release it to the conveyance system))~~ has the same  
486 meaning as in K.C.C. 9.04.020Q.

487           ~~((I.))~~ I. "Lake management plan" means the plan, and supporting documents as  
488 appropriate, describing the lake management recommendations and requirements which has  
489 been formally adopted by rule under the procedures specified in K.C.C. chapter 2.98.  
490 Adopted lake management plans are available from the division and the department of  
491 development and environmental services. A synopsis of adopted lake management plans

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

492 will be distributed to all Surface Water Design Manual subscribers as part of the manual's  
493 routine update process.

494 ~~((J. "Drainage facility" means the system of collecting, conveying, and storing~~  
495 ~~surface and storm water runoff. Drainage facilities shall include but not be limited to all~~  
496 ~~surface and storm water conveyance and containment facilities including streams, pipelines,~~  
497 ~~channels, ditches, swamps, lakes, wetlands, closed depressions, infiltration facilities, flow~~  
498 ~~control facilities, erosion/sedimentation control facilities and other drainage structures and~~  
499 ~~appurtenances, both natural and constructed.))~~

500 K. "Impervious surface" means a hard surface area which either prevents or retards  
501 the entry of water into the soil mantle as it entered under natural conditions prior to  
502 development, and/or a hard surface area which causes water to run off the surface in greater  
503 quantities or at an increased rate of flow from the flow present under natural conditions prior  
504 to development. Common impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to, roofs,  
505 walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots, storage areas, areas which are paved, graveled or  
506 made of packed or oiled earthen materials or other surfaces which similarly impede the  
507 natural infiltration of surface and storm water. Open, uncovered flow control facilities and  
508 water quality treatment facilities shall not be considered as impervious surfaces for the  
509 purpose of this chapter.

510 L. "Land use code" means restrictions on the type of development for a specific  
511 parcel of land as identified by records maintained by the King County department of  
512 assessments as modified or supplemented by information resulting from investigation by the



**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

513 division. Land use codes are preliminary indicators of the extent of impervious surface and  
514 are used in the initial analysis to assign an appropriate rate category for a specific parcel.

515 M. "Maintenance" means the act or process of cleaning, repairing or preserving a  
516 system, unit, facility, structure or piece of equipment.

517 N. "Natural surface water drainage system" means such landscape features as rivers,  
518 streams, lakes and wetlands. This system circulates water in a complex hydrological cycle.

519 O. "Open space" means any parcel, property or portion thereof classified for current  
520 use taxation under K.C.C. chapter 20.36 and chapter 84.34 RCW, or for which the  
521 development rights have been sold to King County under K.C.C. chapter 26.04. This  
522 definition includes lands which have been classified as open space, agricultural or timber  
523 lands under criteria contained in K.C.C. chapter 20.36 and chapter 84.34 RCW.

524 P. "Parcel" means the smallest separately segregated unit or plot of land having an  
525 identified owner, boundaries and surface area which is documented for property tax purposes  
526 and given a tax lot number by the King County assessor.

527 Q. "Person" means any individual, firm, company, association, corporation or  
528 governmental agency.

529 R. "Program" means the surface water management program as set forth in this  
530 chapter.

531 S. "Rate category" means the classification in this chapter given to a parcel in the  
532 service area based upon the type of land use on the parcel and the percentage of impervious  
533 surface area contained on the parcel.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

534           T. "Residence" means a building or structure or portion thereof, designed for and  
535   used to provide a place of abode for human beings. The term residence includes the term  
536   "residential" or "residential unit" as referring to the type of or intended use of a building or  
537   structure.

538           U. "Residential parcel" means any parcel which contains no more than three  
539   residences or three residential units which are within a single structure and is used primarily  
540   for residential purposes.

541           V. "Service area" means unincorporated King County.

542           W. "Storm water plan" means a King County ordinance specifying the storm water  
543   control facilities that will be funded by a bond issue.

544           X. "Subbasin" means a drainage area that drains to a water course or water body  
545   named and noted on common maps and that is contained within a basin as defined in K.C.C.  
546   9.04.020.

547           Y. "Surface and storm water management services" means the services provided by  
548   the surface water management program, including but not limited to basin planning, facilities  
549   maintenance, regulation, financial administration, public involvement, drainage investigation  
550   and enforcement, aquatic resource restoration, surface and storm water quality and  
551   environmental monitoring, natural surface water drainage system planning,  
552   intergovernmental relations and facility design and construction.

553           Z. "Surface water management fee protocols" or "SWM fee protocols" means the  
554   surface water management fee standards and procedures that have been formally adopted by  
555   rule under the procedures specified in K.C.C. chapter 2.98. The SWM fee protocols are

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

556 available from the department of natural resources and parks, water and land resources  
557 division or their successor agencies.

558 AA. "Surface and storm water" means water originating from rainfall and other  
559 precipitation that is found in drainage facilities, rivers, streams, springs, seeps, ponds, lakes  
560 and wetlands as well as shallow ground water.

561 BB. "Surface and storm water management system" means constructed drainage  
562 facilities and any natural surface water drainage features that do any combination of  
563 collection, storing, controlling, treating or conveying surface and storm water.

564 CC. "Undeveloped parcel" means any parcel which has not been altered from its  
565 natural state by the construction, creation or addition of impervious surface.

566 DD. "Water quality treatment facility" means a drainage facility designed to reduce  
567 pollutants once they are already contained in surface and storm water runoff. Water quality  
568 treatment facilities are the structural component of best management practices. When used  
569 singly or in combination, water quality treatment facilities reduce the potential for  
570 contamination of either surface or ground waters, or both. (Ord. 14261 § 1, 2001: Ord.  
571 14199 § 132, 2001: Ord. 13695 § 1, 1999: Ord. 11522 § 1, 1994: Ord. 11015 § 1, 1993:  
572 Ord. 10187 § 1, 1991: Ord. 7817 § 2, 1986: Ord. 7590 § 1, 1986).

573 SECTION 6. Ordinance 7590, Section 7, as amended, and K.C.C. 9.08.060 are  
574 each hereby amended to read as follows:

575 **9.08.060 Policy.** A. It is the finding of the county that the majority of the basins in  
576 the service area are shared with incorporated cities and towns. In order to achieve a  
577 comprehensive approach to surface and storm water management the county and

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

578 incorporated jurisdictions within a specific basin should coordinate surface and storm water,  
579 management services. In addition, the program may contract for services with interested  
580 municipalities or special districts including but not limited to sewer and water districts,  
581 school districts, port districts or other governmental agencies.

582         B. It is the finding of the county that many of the difficulties found in the  
583 management of surface and storm water problems are contributed to by the general lack of  
584 public knowledge about the relationship between human actions and surface and storm water  
585 management. In order to achieve a comprehensive approach to surface and storm water  
586 management the county should provide general information to the public about land use and  
587 human activities which impact surface and storm water management. Pursuant to RCW  
588 36.89.085, it is the finding of the county that public school districts can provide significant  
589 benefits to the county regarding surface and storm water management through educational  
590 programs and community activities related to protection and enhancement of the surface and  
591 storm water management system. These programs and activities can provide students with  
592 an understanding of human activities and land use practices that create surface and storm  
593 water problems and involve students by learning from first hand exposure, the difficulties of  
594 resolving surface and storm water management problems after they occur.

595         C. It is the finding of the county that technical assistance and community education  
596 have been shown to be a cost-effective means of improving the management of the impacts  
597 of surface and storm water runoff. Technical assistance and community education regarding  
598 stewardship enables King County, its residents and businesses to comply with federal, state  
599 and local mandates and enables the county to protect its quality of life and its natural

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

600 resources. The promotion of stewardship is an integral part of a comprehensive surface and  
601 storm water management program.

602         D. It is the finding of the county that developed parcels contribute to an increase in  
603 surface and storm water runoff to the surface and storm water management system. This  
604 increase in surface and storm water runoff results in the need to establish rates and charges to  
605 finance the county's activities in surface and storm water management. Developed parcels  
606 shall be subject to the rates and charges of the surface water management program based on  
607 their contribution to increased runoff. The factors to be used to determine the degree of  
608 increased surface and storm water runoff to the surface and storm water management system  
609 from a particular parcel shall be the percentage of impervious surface coverage on the parcel,  
610 the total acreage of the parcel and any mitigating factors as determined by King County.

611         E. It is the finding of the county that undeveloped parcels do not contribute as much  
612 as developed parcels to an increase in surface and storm water runoff into the surface and  
613 storm water management system. Undeveloped properties shall be exempt from the rates  
614 and charges of the surface water management program.

615         F. It is the finding of the county that maintained drainage facilities mitigate the  
616 increased runoff contribution of developed parcels by providing on-site drainage control.  
617 Parcels served by flow control facilities (~~(which)~~) that were required for development of the  
618 parcel pursuant to K.C.C. chapter 9.04 and approved by King County or can be demonstrated  
619 as required in K.C.C. 9.08.080 by the property owner to provide flow control of surface and  
620 storm water to the standards in K.C.C. chapter 9.04 shall receive a discount as provided in

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

621 the rates and charges of the surface water management program, if the flow control facility is  
622 maintained at the parcel owner's expense to the standard established by the department.

623         G. It is the finding of the county that improvements to the quality of storm water  
624 runoff can decrease the impact of that runoff on the environment. Parcels served by water  
625 quality treatment facilities that were required for development of the parcel pursuant to  
626 K.C.C. chapter 9.04 and approved by King County or that can be demonstrated as required  
627 in K.C.C. 9.08.080 by the property owner to provide treatment of surface and storm water to  
628 the standards in K.C.C. chapter 9.04 shall receive a discount as provided in the rates and  
629 charges of the surface water management program, if the facility is maintained at the parcel  
630 owner's expense to the standard established by the department.

631         H. It is the finding of the county that parcels with at least sixty-five percent of their  
632 land in forest, no more than twenty percent in impervious surface, and dispersed runoff from  
633 the impervious surface through the forested land resulting in an effective impervious area of  
634 ten percent or less for the entire parcel, do not contribute as much to an increase in surface  
635 and storm water runoff as properties with less forest that do not disperse. These properties  
636 shall be eligible to receive a discount as provided in the rates and charges of the surface  
637 water management program if the runoff from the impervious surface is dispersed in  
638 accordance with the standards established by the department.

639         I. It is the finding of the county that parcels which make use of their pervious surface  
640 area to absorb storm water runoff from the impervious surfaces do not contribute as much to  
641 an increase in surface and storm water runoff as properties that do not use their pervious area  
642 to absorb runoff. These properties shall be eligible to receive a discount as provided in the

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

643 rates and charges of the surface water management program if the runoff from the  
644 impervious surface is dispersed in accordance with the standards established by the  
645 department.

646 J. It is a finding of the county that open space properties provide a benefit to the  
647 surface and storm water management system by the retention of property in an undeveloped  
648 state. Open space properties shall receive a discount from the rates and charges to encourage  
649 the retention of property as open space.

650 K. It is a finding of the county that current scientific studies demonstrate that  
651 conservation and maintenance of forestland and open space contribute to the proper  
652 management of surface water quality and quantity. The scientific analysis performed in  
653 connection with the Cedar river, Issaquah creek and Bear creek basin plans have  
654 demonstrated that forests intercept and evaporate more rainfall, provide more soil storage,  
655 retain and trap more sediments and purify contaminated water better than any other land use.  
656 Conservation and maintenance of public forests, the provision of technical assistance and  
657 encouragement to private landowners to retain forests are effective ways to prevent  
658 disruption of natural hydrology. Open Space lands, to the extent that they retain their natural  
659 condition and do not contain impervious surface, also perform an important surface water  
660 function by not detracting from the functioning of natural hydrology systems. Conservation  
661 and maintenance of publicly owned open space and forestland is often more cost-effective  
662 than building and maintain artificial or engineered surface and storm water management  
663 ((facilities)) facilities. Additional financial resources are required to conserve and maintain

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

664 those natural resource lands that serve important surface and storm water management  
665 functions.

666         L. It is a finding of the county that the majority of the parcels in the service area are  
667 residential. The variance between residential parcels in impervious surface coverage is  
668 found to be minor and to reflect only minor differences in increased runoff contributions.  
669 The administrative cost of calculating the service charge individually for each residential  
670 parcel and maintaining accurate information would be very high. A flat charge for  
671 residential parcels is less costly to administer than calculating a separate charge for each  
672 parcel and is equitable because of the similarities in impervious surface coverage between  
673 residential parcels. Therefore, residential parcels shall be charged a flat charge based upon  
674 an average amount of impervious surface.

675         M. It is a finding of the county that very lightly developed nonresidential parcels  
676 which have an impervious surface coverage of ten percent or less of the total parcel acreage  
677 are characterized by a very low intensity of development and generally a large number of  
678 acres. A greater number of acres of undeveloped land associated with an impervious surface  
679 results in significantly less impact to the surface and storm water management system.  
680 Many of the very lightly developed properties are recreational, agricultural and timber lands  
681 identified in the King County comprehensive plan and should be encouraged to retain their  
682 low intensity of development. These parcels shall be charged a flat rate which will  
683 encourage the retention of large areas of very lightly developed land.

684         N. It is the finding of the county that lightly to very heavily developed nonresidential  
685 parcels which have an impervious surface coverage of more than ten percent have a



**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

686 substantial impact on the surface and storm water management system. The impact of these  
687 parcels on the surface and storm water management system increases with the size of the  
688 parcels. Therefore, lightly to very heavily developed properties shall be charged a rate  
689 determined by the percent of impervious surface coverage multiplied by the parcel acreage.

690 O. It is a finding of the county that county and state roads contribute a significant  
691 amount of increased runoff to the surface and storm water management system, which  
692 contributes to the need for basin planning, drainage facilities and other related services.  
693 However, both the county roads and state highway programs provide substantial annual  
694 programs for the construction and maintenance of drainage facilities, and the roads systems  
695 and their associated drainage facilities serve as an integral part of the surface and storm water  
696 management system. The rate charged county roads and state highways shall reflect the  
697 benefit which county roads and state highway facilities provide to the surface and storm  
698 water management system. County and state road drainage systems unlike the drainage  
699 systems on other properties are continually being upgraded to increase both conveyance  
700 capacity and control. It is envisioned that the roads program will work cooperatively with  
701 the surface water management program to improve regional surface and storm water  
702 management services as new information is available from basin plans and other sources.  
703 The percentage of impervious surface coverage for county roads and state highways shall be  
704 calculated by dividing average width of roadway and shoulder by the average width of the  
705 right of way. The service charge shall be calculated in accordance with RCW 90.03.525.

706 P. It is the finding of the county that comprehensive management of surface and  
707 storm water runoff must include anticipation of future growth and development in the design

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

708 and improvement of the surface and storm water management system. Service charge  
709 revenue needs shall be based upon the present and future requirements of the surface and  
710 storm water management system, and these needs shall be considered when determining the  
711 rates and charges of the program.

712         Q. It is the finding of the county that basin plans are essential to establishing a  
713 comprehensive approach to a capital improvement program, maintenance of facilities and  
714 regulation of new developments. A plan should analyze the measures needed to control  
715 surface and storm water runoff which results from existing and anticipated development  
716 within the basin. The measures investigated to control runoff should include land use  
717 regulation such as setback requirements or community plan revisions which revise land use  
718 densities as well as the use of drainage facilities. A plan also should recommend the quantity  
719 and water quality runoff control measures required to further the purposes set forth in K.C.C.  
720 9.08.040, and community goals. The institutional requirements and regulations, including  
721 but not limited to land use management, funding needs, and incentives for preserving the  
722 natural surface water drainage system should be identified in the plan. The proposed  
723 ordinances and regulations necessary to implement the plan shall be transmitted to the  
724 council simultaneously with the plan.

725         R. It is a finding of the county that the federal government has increased  
726 requirements concerning surface water quantity and control. The federal Clean Water Act,  
727 implemented through municipal storm water NPDES permits, mandates a wide variety of  
728 local programs to manage surface water and improve water quality. Compliance will  
729 increasingly be measured by the effectiveness of King County's surface water and water

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

730 quality programs. The NPDES permit impacts operations in the roads, solid waste, transit  
731 and parks divisions, the airport and the department of development and environmental  
732 services, and most activities in the water and land resources division.

733 S. It is a finding of the county that Chinook salmon were listed as a threatened  
734 species in March 1999, and bull trout were listed as a threatened species in November 1999,  
735 under the federal Endangered Species Act. These listings focus the need for higher standards  
736 in managing surface water including new, expanded and more intensive programs to control  
737 the quantity of runoff as well as its quality. Programs responding to these imperatives have  
738 included the design, permitting and construction of facilities, facility retrofitting and  
739 maintenance, (~~habitat~~) habitat acquisition and restoration, monitoring, regulation  
740 development and coordination with other agencies on transboundary issues.

741 T. It is the finding of the county that areas with development related surface and  
742 storm water problems require comprehensive management of surface and storm water.

743 U. It is the finding of the county that additional surface and storm water runoff  
744 problems may be caused by new land use development if not properly mitigated both  
745 through protection of natural systems and through constructed improvements. The Surface  
746 Water Design Manual and K.C.C Titles 9, 16, 20 and 21A have been adopted by King  
747 County to mitigate the impact of land use development. Further mitigation of these impacts  
748 is based on expertise which continues to evolve as new information on our natural systems is  
749 obtained and new techniques are discovered. The surface water management program,  
750 through reconnaissance studies, basin plans, and other special studies, will continuously  
751 provide valuable information on the existing problems and areas of the natural drainage

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

752 system that need special protection. The county is researching and developing methods to  
753 protect the natural drainage system through zoning, buffering and setbacks to alleviate  
754 existing problems. Setback and buffering measures allow natural preservation of wetlands  
755 and stream corridors to occur, alleviate erosion and water pollution and provide a safe  
756 environment for the small mammals and fish which inhabit sensitive areas. Based upon the  
757 findings in this subsection, and as information and methods become available, the executive,  
758 as appropriate shall draft and submit to the council, regulations and development standards to  
759 allow protection of the surface and storm water management system including natural  
760 drainage systems.

761         V. It is the finding of the county that the unique stormwater needs of the  
762 unincorporated rural area of the county require that the county's surface water management  
763 program established under chapter 36.89 RCW develop a rural drainage program. The intent  
764 of this rural drainage program is to provide a means through which existing and emerging  
765 surface water problems in the rural areas can be addressed in a manner that preserves both  
766 rural resources and rural activities including agriculture and forestry. Rural drainage services  
767 provided by the division shall support a rural level of development and not facilitate  
768 urbanization. This rural drainage program shall result in a program consistent with  
769 Countywide Planning Policies and King County Comprehensive Plan policies.

770         W. The program will maintain long term fiscal viability and fund solvency for all of  
771 its related funds. All required capital and operating expenditures will be covered by service  
772 charges and other revenues generated or garnered by the program. The program will pay all  
773 current operating expenses from current revenues and will maintain an operating reserve to

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

774 minimize service impacts due to revenue or expenditure variances from plan during a fiscal  
775 year. This reserve will be calculated based on the historic variability of revenue and  
776 expenditures. The program will adopt a strategic financial planning approach which  
777 recognizes the dynamic nature of the program's fiscal operating environment. Long term  
778 projections will be updated in the program's adopted strategic plan. One-time revenues will  
779 be dedicated to one-time-only expenditures and will not be used to support ongoing  
780 requirements. The program's approach to financial reporting and disclosure will be  
781 comprehensive, open and accessible.

782 X. The program shall prepare an annual, multiyear capital improvement program  
783 which encompasses all of the program's activities related to the acquisition, construction,  
784 replacement, or renovation of capital facilities or equipment. All proposed new facilities will  
785 be subject to a consistent and rigorous needs analysis. The program's capital facilities will be  
786 planned and financed to ensure that the benefits of the facilities and the costs for them are  
787 balanced over time.

788 Y. The program will manage its debt to ensure continued high credit quality, access  
789 to credit markets, and financial flexibility. All of the program's debt management activities  
790 will be conducted to maintain at least the current credit ratings assigned to the county's debt  
791 by the major credit rating agencies and to maintain an adequate debt service coverage ratio.  
792 Long term debt will not be used to support operating expenses. The program will develop  
793 and maintain a central system for all debt-related records which will include all official  
794 statements, bid documents, ordinances indentures, leases, etc., for all of the program's debt  
795 and will accurately account for all interested earnings in debt-related funds. These records

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

796 will be designed to ensure that the program is in compliance with all debt covenants and with  
797 state and federal laws. (Ord. 14261 § 2, 2001: Ord. 13695 § 4, 1999: Ord. 11015 § 4, 1993:  
798 Ord. 10187 § 6, 1991: Ord. 7817 § 2, 1986: Ord. 7590 § 7, 1986).

799 SECTION 7. Ordinance 10636, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 9.12.015 are  
800 each hereby amended to read as follows:

801 **9.12.015 Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and  
802 enforcement of this chapter:

803 A. "AKART" means an acronym for "all known, available, and reasonable methods  
804 of prevention, control, and treatment." AKART shall represent the most current  
805 methodology that can be reasonably required for preventing, controlling, or abating the  
806 pollutants associated with a discharge. The concept of AKART applies to both point and  
807 nonpoint sources of pollution.

808 B. "Best management practices" or "BMPs" mean the best available and reasonable  
809 physical, structural, managerial, or behavioral activities, that when used singly or in  
810 combination, eliminate or reduce the contamination of surface and/or ground waters.

811 C. "Chapter" means this chapter and any administrative rules and regulations  
812 adopted to implement this chapter.

813 D. "Clean Water Act" means 33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq., as amended.

814 E. "County" means the municipality of King County.

815 F. "Director" means the director of the King County department of natural resources  
816 and parks, other department directors specified in enforcement procedures established  
817 pursuant to this chapter, or any duly authorized representatives of such directors.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

818           G. "Discharge" means to throw, drain, release, dump, spill, empty, emit, or pour  
819    forth any matter or to cause or allow matter to flow, run, or seep from land or be thrown,  
820    drained, released, dumped, spilled, emptied, emitted or poured into water.

821           H. "Drainage facility" (~~((means the system that collects, conveys, and stores surface~~  
822    ~~and storm water runoff. Drainage facilities shall include but not be limited to all surface and~~  
823    ~~storm water conveyance and containment facilities including streams, pipelines, channels,~~  
824    ~~ditches, swamps, lakes, wetlands, closed depressions, infiltration facilities,~~  
825    ~~retention/detention facilities, erosion/sedimentation control facilities and other drainage~~  
826    ~~structures and appurtenances, both natural and artificial)) has the same meaning as in K.C.C.~~  
827    9.04.020L.

828           I. "Farm management plan" means a comprehensive site-specific plan developed by  
829    the farm owner in cooperation with the King County Conservation District taking into  
830    consideration the land owners objectives while protecting water quality and related natural  
831    resources.

832           J. "Forest practices" means any activity conducted on or directly pertaining to forest  
833    land and relating to growing, harvesting, or processing timber, as defined in Chapter 222-16  
834    Washington Administrative Code.

835           K. "Ground water" means all waters that exist beneath the land surface or beneath  
836    the bed of any stream, lake or reservoir, or other body of surface water, whatever may be the  
837    geological formation or structure in which such water stands or flows, percolates or  
838    otherwise moves.

**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

839           L. "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System" or "NPDES" means the  
840   national program for controlling pollutants from point source discharges directly into waters  
841   of the United States under the Clean Water Act.

842           M. "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit" means an  
843   authorization, license, or equivalent control document issued by the Environmental  
844   Protection Agency or the Washington State Department of Ecology to implement the  
845   requirements of the NPDES program.

846           N. "Person" means an individual, their agents or assigns; municipality; political  
847   subdivision; government agency; partnership; corporation; business; or any other entity.

848           O. "Source control BMP" means a BMP intended to prevent contaminants from  
849   entering surface and storm water and/or ground water including the modification of  
850   processes to eliminate the production or use of contaminants. Source control BMPs can be  
851   either structural or nonstructural. Structural source control BMPs involve the construction of  
852   a physical structure on site, or other type of physical modification to a site; for example,  
853   building a covered storage area. A non-structural source control BMP involves the  
854   modification or addition of managerial or behavioral practices; for example, using less toxic  
855   alternatives to current products or sweeping parking lots.

856           P. "State Waste Discharge Permit" means an authorization, license, or equivalent  
857   control document issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology in accordance with  
858   Chapter 173-216 Washington Administrative Code.



**DRAFT – INTERNAL REVIEW ONLY - DRAFT**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

859           Q. "Storm Water BMP Manual" or "manual" means the manual (and supporting  
860 documents as appropriate) describing best management practices, design, maintenance,  
861 procedures, and guidance which has been approved by the King County council.

862           R. "Surface and storm water" means water originating from rainfall and other  
863 precipitation that is found in drainage facilities, rivers, streams, springs, seeps, ponds, lakes  
864 and wetlands as well as shallow ground water.

865           S. "Treatment BMP" means a BMP intended to remove contaminants once they are  
866 already contained in storm water. Examples of treatment BMPs include: oil/water  
867 separators, biofiltration swales, and wet-settling basins. (Ord. 14199 § 134, 2001: Ord.  
868 11624 § 5, 1994: Ord. 10636 § 3, 1992)